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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, June 1, 1989 -- Carloadings* originated on major U.S. railroads during the week ended May 27 totaled 347,013, down 0.4 percent from the comparable week of 1988, and 0.5 percent below the preceding week of 1989, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported today. The railroads reporting account for approximately 94 percent of all rail carloads.

Carloadings originated were up 1.8 percent in the East, but down 3.0 percent in the West, compared with a year ago.

From the comparable 1988 week, coal was up 4,293 cars (3.6 percent), and loadings of metallic ores rose 3,782 cars (19.3 percent). Grain loadings were down 5,140 cars (16.2 percent).

Cumulative carloadings for the first 21 weeks of 1989 totaled 7,082,812, up 0.5 percent from the comparable period a year ago.

Intermodal traffic on Class I railroads -- which is not included in the carloadings -- totaled 108,367 trailers and/or containers for the week ended May 27, down 6.3 percent from the comparable week of 1988.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 21 weeks of 1989 was 2,357,364 trailers and/or containers, up 1.3 percent from 1988.

The AAR also estimated that ton-miles carried on major railroads in the week ended May 27 totaled 19.7 billion, virtually the same as the comparable week of 1988. Cumulative volume for the first 21 weeks of 1989 was an estimated 407.8 billion ton-miles, up 1.2 percent from the comparable period of last year.

**Because of changes in reporting, 1989 figures are not comparable to previous years, except for 1988, which has been restated for purposes of comparison with 1989.*

(more)

WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 27, 1989

CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP

COMMODITY	WEEK ENDING MAY 27, 1989	COMPARISON WITH SAME WEEK OF 1988	CHANGE	COMPARISON WITH PRECEDING WEEK	CHANGE
Grain	26,518	31,658	-16.2 %	27,505	-3.6 %
Farm Products, Ex. Grain	1,561	2,175	-28.2	1,596	-2.2
Metallic Ores	23,347	19,565	19.3	23,177	.7
Coal	124,635	120,342	3.6	126,737	-1.7
Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel	16,697	18,117	-7.8	16,405	1.8
Nonmetallic Minerals	11,667	10,564	10.4	11,029	5.8
Grain Mill Products	10,039	10,858	-7.5	10,046	-.1
Food & Kindred Products	8,764	9,216	-4.9	8,817	-.6
Primary Forest Products	9,645	10,061	-4.1	9,475	1.8
Lumber & Wood Products	7,171	8,255	-13.1	6,871	4.4
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	10,359	11,089	-6.6	10,382	-.2
Chemicals	26,857	25,414	5.7	27,244	-1.4
Petroleum Products	5,508	4,938	11.5	5,137	7.2
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	11,013	11,382	-3.2	10,625	3.7
Coke	5,377	5,334	.8	5,485	-2.0
Metals & Products	9,941	11,177	-11.1	10,393	-4.3
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	20,484	21,038	-2.6	21,091	-2.9
Waste & Scrap Materials	9,440	9,499	-.6	9,403	.4
All Other Carloads	7,990	7,782	2.7	7,241	10.3
Total	**347,013**	**348,464**	**-.4 %**	**348,659**	**-.5 %**

SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES

TRAFFIC	WEEK ENDING MAY 27, 1989 1989	1988	CHANGE	CUMULATIVE: 21 WEEKS ENDING MAY 27, 1989 1989	1988	CHANGE
Carloads Originated	**347,013**	**348,464**	**-.4 %**	**7,082,812**	**7,045,816**	**.5 %**
Intermodal Traffic Originated						
Trailers	63,212	69,272	-8.7	1,372,480	1,412,411	-2.8
Containers	45,155	46,379	-2.6	984,884	913,896	7.8
Total	**108,367**	**115,651**	**-6.3**	**2,357,364**	**2,326,307**	**1.3**
Estimated Ton-Miles						
Class I Railroads (Billions)	**19.7**	**19.7**	**.0 %**	**407.8**	**403.1**	**1.2 %**

NOTE: Carloads estimated for: Week 21, 1989 - TM.

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